

**INITIAL STATEMENT OF REASONS**  
**TITLE 13, DIVISION 1, CHAPTER 1**  
**ARTICLE 2.1 COMMERCIAL DRIVER LICENSE**  
**MEDICAL REQUIREMENTS FOR DRIVERS**

The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) publishes instructions for performing and recording physical examinations of commercial drivers. Effective September 30, 2003, the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations Advisory Criteria were amended. This proposed rulemaking pertains to hypertension screening. California is adopting the federal medical Advisory Criteria for hypertension at Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Section 391.41, subdivision (b). The revised Advisory Criteria are attached and information pertaining to hypertension begins on page 3 of that attachment. Title 49, Sections 391.41 and 391.43 of the CFR are also attached.

The department has amended its Health Questionnaire (Form DL 546 (Rev 11/2004)) to include the FMCSA guidelines for hypertension. The revision dates for this form have been updated throughout this rulemaking. In order to maintain compliance with the federal guidelines, the following amendments are being made to Title 13:

**§28.18. Minimum Physical and Medical Requirements for Class A, B, or Commercial Class C Drivers' Licenses; or Ambulance Drivers' Certificates**

Subparagraph (b) has been added to define and identify the FMCSA reference section as well as the specific criteria being addressed – blood pressure, hypertension, and recertification periods based on hypertension. The section title and text have been amended to remove “s” from the word “driver.”

**§28.19. Medical Certificates Required by Section 12804.9(a)(1), 12527(c)(3) and 15275 of the Vehicle Code that May be Issued by the Department of Motor Vehicles.**

This section has been amended for clarity. The opening paragraph has been amended to identify the type of medical certificates being discussed in this section in order to preclude any confusion. Minor grammatical corrections have been made in subparagraphs (b) and (c). The text in subparagraph (d) has been amended to remove “s” from the word “driver.”

**§28.20. Medical Requirements for Hazardous Agricultural Materials Endorsement.**

This section has been amended to update the form revision dates as previously noted.

**§28.21. Medical Requirements for Restricted Class A Driver License.**

Subparagraph (a) (9) (A) has been revised to include the new blood pressure standard of 140/90 or higher. Subparagraph (b) has been revised to update the form revision date.

**§28.22. Medical Requirements for Restricted Fire Fighter Driver License.**

Subparagraphs (b) and (c) (3) have been revised to update the form revision date.

**§28.23. Health Questionnaire.**

Subparagraph (a) has been revised to update the form revision date.